

Message Text

SECRET

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11 L

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 PM-09 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 GAC-01 USIA-12 TRSE-00

MBFR-03 SAJ-01 H-02 NSC-10 SS-15 RSR-01 /120 W

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P R 141025 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

TO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9440

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFORUESGU/ AMEMBASSY ANKARA 24

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYJKAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USMISSION GENEVA

USDEL SALT

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

USDEL MC BRUSSELS

CINCEUR VAIHINGEN

USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

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USAREUR HEIDELBERG
DIA WASHDC

S E C R E T BUDAPEST 0907

DISTO; VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL; MILITARY ADDRESSEES FOR
POLADS/ DAOS.

SUBJECT: ITALIAN REPORT OF NEWLY- INTRODUCED SOVIET
FORCES AND EQUIPMENT IN CENTRAL EUROPE.

REFERENCE: AMEMB BONN MSG DTG 110929 Z APR 73.

1. BEGIN SUMMARY: OVERALL ASSESSMENT OR ACCURACY
OF REPORT - IMPROBABLE. AGREE MINOR SGF TROOP PERSONNEL
LEVEL INCREASES IN HUNGARY HAVE OCCURRED; CERTAIN
MATERIAL STOCKS HAVE INCREASED - NOT ARMORED - RATHER
IN ARTY SUCH AS BM-21 ROCKET LAUNCHER; MINOR REIN-
FORCEMENT OF AIR DEFENSE MISSILES POSSIBLE (MAYBE SA-4).
NOTHING IN MAGNITUDE REFTEL.
2. PERSONNEL: CONCEIVABLE SOVIET GROUP OF FORCES
(SGF) INCREASED PERSONNEL STRENGTH IN LINE DIV FROM
A PREVIOUSLY ESTIMATED 87 PERCENT TO 90 PERCENT (CIRCA 71)
TO A CURRENT NATO- ATTACHE ACCEPTED LEVEL OF APPROX 95 PERCENT.
RAIL WATCH OF INDIVIDUAL REPL ESTIMATES 4.5 - 5.0
THOUSAND PER MONTH. CONSIDERING A 2.5 THOUSAND
REQUIRED MONTHLY REPLACEMENT FLOW, PLUS FROM 2.0 TO
2.5 THOUSAND MONTHLY HOME LEAVES RAIL MOVEMENTS NOT
EXCESSIVE. ADDED CONSTRUCTION IN MANY SGF BARRACKS
AREAS, HOWEVER, ALL IN CASERNS CONSIDERED DEPENDENT
HOUSING AREAS. " HOUSING" COULD BE TROOI BILLETS, BUT
BECAUSE OF LOCATION, NOT CONSIDERED PROBABLE.
3. EQUIPMENT: TANKS IN NUMBERS QUOTED IN REFTEL ADDED
TO CURRENT HIGH INVENTORY ONLY INCREASES MAINTENANCE
PROBLEM. NOT ONLY SGF, BUT ALSO HUNGARIAN PEOPLE' S
ARMY (HPA) UNITS SUFFER FROM ALREADY OVER EXTENDED
MAINTENANCE BASE. ARMORED FORMATIONS AS EXPRESSION OF
POWER IN MODERN MILITARY TERMS HAS CEASED TO EXIST.
THE ONLY REAL COMBAT POWER IS IN NUCLEAR DELIVERY MEANS.
ADDITIONAL NUCLEAR MEANS SUCH AS NEW SCUD, FROG, OR
SECRET

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EVEN MRBMS (MEDIUM RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILES) HAVE NOT

BEEN DETECTED. POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL ARMORED MATERIAL
DISPATCHED/ RECEIVED, BUT NOT IN MAGNITUDE VOICED
REFTEL. HPA DOES NOT POSSESS T-62 TANK, NOR IS GOH
READY TO PAY PRICE TO SOVIETS OF RE- EQUIPING HPA TANK
DIVS WITH T-62 S.

4. CONCLUSIONS: ADDED T-62 S COULD HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED,
HOWEVER, ANY NUMBER BEYOND 100 WOULD HAVE BEEN NOTICED.
THERE ARE NO KNOWN LAUNCHING PADS FOR TACTICAL OR
MEDIUM RANGE BALLISTIC MISSILES ON HUNGARIAN SOIL.
USDAO BUDAPEST DEEPLY INVOLVED IN COMPREHENSIVE STUDY
OF SCUD A & B DEPLOYMENT AND EMPLOYMENT TECHNIQUES,
AND WILL IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY CHANGE TO NEGATIVE
REPORT. INTRODUCTION OF ADDITIONAL SA-4 SAM BDE WOULD
NOT HAVE IMMEDIATELY BEEN DETECTED BY ATTACHES , HOWEVER,
WOULD NOT HAVE UNNOTICED BY OTHER US INTELLIGENCE
COLLECTION MEANS.
PUHAN

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*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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